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### IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace claim 1 with amended claim 1 as follows:

1. (Currently amended): An electrical coupler, comprising:  
an electrically conductive inner connector element having opposing ends;  
an upper end connector and a lower end connector; each end connector  
respectively coupled to one of said opposing ends of said inner connector element;  
a thermally conductive flange coupled to and circumscribing said inner  
connector; and  
an electrically non-conductive outer connector element disposed over said  
electrically conductive inner connector and said thermally conductive flange.
2. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 1 wherein said opposing ends of said inner  
connector element each comprise a bore, in which the upper and lower end connectors  
are disposed.
3. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 1 wherein said thermally conductive flange  
is brazed to said inner connector.
4. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 1 wherein said thermally conductive flange  
is fabricated from a ceramic material.
5. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 1 wherein said thermally conductive flange  
is fabricated from the group comprising aluminum nitride and beryllium oxide.
6. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 1 wherein said inner connector element is  
fabricated from beryllium copper.
7. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 2 wherein said upper and lower end  
connectors are fabricated from beryllium copper.

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8. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 7 said upper and lower end connectors are plated with at least one electrical conductor.

9. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 8 wherein said upper and lower end connectors are plated with successive layers of nickel and gold.

10. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 2 wherein said upper and lower end connectors each comprise a female banana connector disposed therein said bore.

11. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 1 further comprising an upper male connector removably inserted into said upper end connector.

12. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 11 wherein said upper male connector is fabricated from a thermally non-conductive material.

13. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 12 wherein said upper male end connector is fabricated from stainless steel.

14. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 12 wherein said upper male end connector is plated with at least one electrical conductor.

15. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 14 wherein said upper male end connector is plated with successive layers of nickel, copper, nickel, gold.

16. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 1 further comprising a lower male connector removably inserted into said lower end connector.

17. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 16 wherein said lower male connector is fabricated from beryllium copper.

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18. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 16 wherein said lower male connector is plated with at least one electrical conductor.

19. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 18 wherein said lower male connector is plated with successive layers of nickel and gold.

20. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 1 wherein said outer connector element is fabricated from silicone.

21. (Original): The electrical coupler of claim 1 wherein a portion of said thermally conductive flange circumscribing said inner connector is exposed from said outer connector element to transfer heat to a surrounding environment.

22-44. (Withdrawn)

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